GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3987
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2005
CLASSICAL LANGUAGE
Appadurai Shri M.

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any request from people of Indian Origin and Tamil origin settled in Latin American countries and other foreign countries seeking Government of India`s help to arrange to teach Tamil language which has been accorded `classical language` status by Government of India;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether NCERT has selected only four Indian languages for the preparation of curriculum to be Introduced In several parts of the country;

(d) if so, whether Tamil, the ancient classical language of this country, has not been included in this teaching technique research and development venture;

(e) whether the Government proposes to create Tamil Chairs for Research and Teaching in all the universities through UGC and In the central universities to begin with; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A.FATMI)

(a) to (f): A Statement is annexed.

ANNEXURE

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (f) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3987 FOR 23.08.2005 REGARDING CLASSICAL LANGUAGE.

(a) & (b): According to the information made available by the Central Institute of Indian Languages, there is no specific request from people of Indian Origin and Tamil origin settled in Latin American countries seeking Government of India`s help to arrange to teach Tamil language. However, a request from people of Indian and Tamil origin settled in Mauritius has been considered and the process of establishing a Language Resource Centre in collaboration with Mahatma Gandhi Institute, Moka, Mauritius is on. Rs. one crore has been allocated by Government of India through the Central Institute of Indian Language, Mysore for this purpose and Rs. 30 lakhs has already been released as first instalment. The Institute has launched an on-line Tamil teaching/learning programme to help all such people throughout the world especially the Tamil Diaspora. A television programme to teach Tamil as second/foreign language under Bhasha Mandakini Project is initiated.

(c) & (d): NCERT develops textbooks for school education in Hindi, English and Urdu medium. The respective State Education Departments develop textbooks in other Indian languages for the purpose of school education. The draft of the National Curriculum Framework 2005 has been translated into Tamil as well as several other languages.

(e): UGC has not created any Chair for teaching Tamil -language in universities for the promotion of the language.

(f):Does not arise.